

**Department of Environmental Protection  
Montgomery County, Maryland**

***DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES***



"Lead Cashier Kevin Fletcher and Refuse Disposal Cashiers Don Solangaarachchi and Toka Stevens (two of our six cashiers) manage over a thousand transactions a day at the truck scales of the Transfer Station tracking all inbound and outbound materials."

***MONTHLY REPORT  
JUNE 2010***



*Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper*

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# **OVERVIEW**

## **Tonnage at a Glance**

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and the current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County Fiscal Year 2010 began July 1, 2009.)

<b>FACILITY</b>	<b>Jun FY10</b>	<b>FY10 Total</b>	<b>Jun FY09</b>	<b>Jun FY08</b>
Materials Recovery Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	6,972 tons	78,822 tons	6,911 tons	6,683 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility <sup>(2)</sup>	18,868 tons	175,030 tons	17,001 tons	23,370 tons
Resource Recovery Facility <sup>(3)</sup>	55,126 tons	535,097 tons	52,540 tons	59,735 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	4,243 tons	72,349 tons	6,742 tons	5,658 tons

*(1) MRF tons reported as outgoing.*

*(2) Refers to waste sent to the landfill for disposal (ash residue and nonprocessable waste). It does not include rubble and bulk natural wood waste that is recycled.*

*(3) RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. These tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the September and December monthly reports.*

During June, program staff:

- Researched properties and entered billing changes into the database;
- Continued work on the Equity Enhancement Study for Task Order #25;
- Prepared monthly house counts for collection contractors;
- Processed vacancy refunds payable in June;
- Updated Access™ databases and Excel™ spreadsheets for monthly Refuse and Recycling Collection contractor reports;
- Continued routine research and correction of solid waste fee abnormalities as they emerge in the property tax database;
- Generated Hauler/Collector Credit Account invoices for June 2010 totaling \$1,386,328.24 (an increase of \$68,180.65 above June 2009);
- Updated the Aging Report (30-day arrearage was \$19,064.30 as of July 2, 2010);
- Completed the CY09 Mass Balance (County-Wide Materials Flow Analysis);
- Reconciled June 2010 tons to monies posted in FAMIS, as well as to the total dollars charged in Paradigm;
- Continued to update and verify information in the Division of Solid Waste Services' (DSWS) Fixed Asset Database;
- Assist with ongoing DSWS IT services, ERP and MC311 implementation; and
- Began encumbering funds for FY11 and making final purchases for FY10.

## **CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

**Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group (DAFIG)** – DAFIG met on Tuesday, June 8, 2010. Topics discussed included the following: The Facilities Master Plan, DEP Complaints; Deer Management and Facilities Update.

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)** – The regular monthly meeting for SWAC was held on Tuesday, June 1, 2010. The topic was on the MCPS Recycling. There were eleven SWAC members and three County staff members present. The next monthly meeting is scheduled on Saturday, September 11, 2010 at the Recycling Center.

## **COLLECTIONS**

### **News:**

On June 10, County Executive Isiah Leggett formally announced the launch of residential solid waste collection via compressed natural gas vehicles with a press conference at the Crabbs Branch fueling location. Unity Disposal and Recycling provided a recycling and refuse truck for the event.

On June 28, Ecology Services began providing service in Areas 10, 11, 12 and 13.

### **Resident Missed Collection Complaints:**

June 2010	127
June 2009	87
Difference	+40*

\*Increase is due to start-ups in Areas 2 & 5, and data entry errors by MC311.

### **Call Center:**

Bulk trash requests	2,145
Scrap metal requests	2,573
Blue bin requests	1,354
Blue cart requests	422
Literature requests	269

## **Public Outreach:**

- **Survey Cards:**

The Public Service Workers distributed 1,495 survey cards in May and received 5.2% of the cards back.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Recycling Programs	72%	20%	4%	1%	3%
County Staff	67%	28%	4%	1%	0%
Recycling Crews	57%	38%	0%	5%	0%

Collections mailed out 239 survey cards in May and received 10.9% of the cards back.

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
Recycling Programs	76%	20%	4%	0%	0%
County Staff	75%	13%	12%	0%	0%
Recycling Crews	58%	31%	4%	4%	3%

## **Collection Section Enforcement Actions:**

- Citations: No citations were issued in June.
- Notices of Violation: One notice of violation was issued in June.
  - 48-20 (d) operating a vehicle found to be in an unsafe physical, mechanical, or sanitary condition. Issued to Unity Disposal at Muncaster Mill and Redland Road.

## **Website:**

The following is information gathered from the Montgomery County Solid Waste web in June 2010:

### **Solid Waste Services Website**

Unique Visitors	50,012
Page Loads	143,060

### **Email List Memberships**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>New subscribers this month</b>
Holiday Reminder	14,143	101
Newsletter Helper	2,608	36

HHW Announcements	5,090	113
Facility Updates	2,115	64
Electronics Recycling	2,206	64
GoGreen	1,043	47
Civic Loop	217	24
Non-Residential Recycling (SORRT)	172	-1
Multi-Family Recycling (TRRAC)	144	18
Division Monthly Report	160	32
<b>Total Subscriptions</b>	<b>27,898</b>	<b>498</b>

#### Most Popular Web Pages

1. Shady Grove Processing Center and Transfer Station
2. How do I...
3. Bulk trash
4. Housing Hazardous Waste
5. Holidays
6. Recycling Center
7. Compost bins
8. Scrap metal recycling
9. Latex paint
10. Curbside collection service

## **WASTE MINIMIZATION**

<b>Product Recycled</b>	<b>Approximate weight recycled in June 2010 (tons)</b>
Computers	84 tons
TVs	97 tons
Propane Tanks	8 tons
Textiles	12 tons
Construction Materials (Don't Dump – Donate)	5 tons
Vehicle Batteries	15 tons
Rechargeable Batteries	0 ton

## **HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS**

**Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection** – There were a total 6,605 patrons in the program this month. During normal business hours we had 6,208 patrons and after 5:00 p.m. we had 397 patrons for this month. There were a total of 1,291 patrons who utilized the facility after 5:00 p.m. since March in FY10.

**Small Quantity Generator/ECOWISE Program** – There were 18 ECOWISE participants this month.

## **WASTE REDUCTION**

**Bicycle Recycling** – “Bikes for the World” removed 2 tons of bikes this month (for restoration and shipment to countries worldwide).

**Paint Reduction** – The free paint program gave away 570 gallons of paint to 27 customers. We solidified 75 cubic yards of paint.

**NEW ‘GOGREEN’ Website** – The new *GoGreen* website, ([www.montgomerycountymd.gov/GOGREEN](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/GOGREEN)) will be a one stop site for a wide range of environmental programs and information for residents and businesses. This month, the site had 113 unique page views and 54 visits, down from last month.

**Straight Vegetable Oil (SVO) Recycling** – The Transfer Station has a vendor that accepts Straight Vegetable Oil (SVO) for the sole purpose of bio-diesel production; this month, 2 tons of SVO was shipped out for processing into biodiesel. (<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veggieoil>).

## **AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS**

**Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEMS Tracking of RRF Emissions** – The CEMS reported no instances of stack gas emissions exceeding permitted concentration limits during the month of June.

**TES Contract (Weather Station)** – All of the instrumentation worked normally in June. Data recovery for all parameters was 100 percent for the month. The total rainfall for the month was 1.03 inches.

## **WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING**

**Public Education and Outreach** – Staff finalized several projects during the month, including final updates to several educational materials and final production of the revised Close the Loop: Buy Recycled video. Work began on the summer edition of the Civic Loop newsletter which is expected to be emailed and sent in mid-July and staff began planning all FY11 projects. Staff hosted a presentation about the County's recycling program to a delegation from the Beit Shemesh-Matcheh Yehuda region in Israel on June 7. Staff provided comprehensive information about the County's history and timeline of recycling, recycling regulations, recycling outreach and education efforts, recycling compliance and enforcement, multi-family recycling program and the business recycling program. The delegation also received an overview and tour of the Recycling Center.

**On-Site Composting and Waste Reduction Activities** – A total of 288 compost bins were distributed in June to encourage residents to compost their leaves and grass clippings on-site. Staff conducted two composting workshops during the month. These workshops were held at Twinbrook Day in Rockville and Whole Foods Market in Silver Spring and reached 37 people. Staff continues efforts to identify alternative compost bin distribution locations, in part since the Regional Services Centers will no longer be distributing compost bins effective on or before July 1, 2010. DSWS has created partnerships with numerous retailers including Whole Foods Markets, Good Earth Garden Market, Country Nursery, Inc., and Friends of the Library (Wheaton). A revised list of compost bin distribution sites is posted on the DSWS website.

**Recycling Investigations Unit** – Since the unit was established, 30,230 site visits and 3,280 formal investigations have been conducted. In June, 45 NOVs were issued to businesses and multi-family properties for infringements against the recycling regulations and Chapter 48. Two citations were issued to businesses during the month of June. One citation was issued to a property management company for failing to provide recycling collection service and storage space for their tenants and one citation was issued to a business for failing to recycle required materials.

**Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction** – The SORRT Program conducted 858 on-site visits of businesses in June. Staff resolved three complaints, participated in 16 events reaching 1,293 people and responded to 34 requests for information ranging from educational materials to presentations for property managers, tenants, and employees. Work continues on field verifying calendar year 2009 Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Reports to ensure the information submitted is accurate. The fourth issue of the quarterly SORRT Network Newsletter is currently under development and will be distributed by the end of July. FY10 task orders were completed in June, including updating reprints of educational materials, developing an educational piece for businesses focused on implementing recycling programs for customers where food and beverages packaged in recyclable packaging are consumed on-site, and designing a new mixed paper recycling container label to increase awareness of mixed paper recycling.



**Multi-Family Recycling and Waste Reduction** – The TRRAC Program conducted 311 on-site visits to multi-family properties in June to monitor the status and progress of their recycling programs and to recommend program improvements. Staff participated in 13 multi-family property educational events, reaching 390 people. Events included an activity with an apartment community's after school program, as well as numerous resident recycling presentations, staff trainings, and lobby displays. Staff also responded to 35 requests for information, resolved 2 resident concerns, and distributed 672 multi-family recycling bins. Staff continues to field verify the Multi-Family Annual Recycling and Waste Reduction Reports covering calendar year 2009 to ensure the information submitted is accurate. The June edition of the TRRAC newsletter for multi-family property representatives was emailed to 224 representatives and included information on managing solid waste generated by move-ins/move-outs, recycling scrap metal, recycling in community spaces, and the reasons (motivations) people recycle. All remaining FY10 projects were completed, including the translation of the primary educational recycling brochure for multi-family residents into 6 additional languages (Amharic, Korean, French, Vietnamese, Japanese and Farsi), the Spanish translation of the multi-family recycling video, and updates to other recycling resources such as recycling container labels and posters. Proposals for FY11 task orders were evaluated.

**Mixed Paper Recycling** – Existing educational materials were distributed to residents at several events. Larger quantities of materials were also provided to homeowners' associations and civic groups for their use and distribution.

**Volunteer Activities** – Ten volunteers contributed 109 hours of their time to support recycling activities in June. Four volunteers provided 96 hours of office assistance. Two neighborhood recycling block captains distributed recycling information to 40 neighbors in Bethesda and provided two grasscycling demonstrations to 9 residents in Rockville. Three volunteers participated in a community outreach event in Clarksburg directly reaching 32 residents and one volunteer participated in a Lead Volunteer Training session. The Recycling Volunteer Program recruited seven prospective volunteers and five new volunteers in June. The summer issue of the Recycler was e-mailed to 286 active and prospective volunteers.

## **PILOT PROGRAM**

**Cooperative Collection/Alternative Collection** – The SORRT Program continues to monitor all three Cooperative Collection Projects in Silver Spring to ensure that the participants are recycling properly. No major issues or concerns arose in June.

## **FACILITY ACTIVITIES**

**Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)** – The RRF processed a total of 55,126 tons, or 1,838 tons per day. Trash deliveries averaged 11,436 tons per week. On June 5, unit #1 was removed from service for the weekend to make grate repairs. It was returned to service for on-peak electric generation on June 7. On June 24, unit #2 was removed from service for about 13 hours to permit repairs to the feedchute hopper.

There were no OSHA recordable incidents this month.

There were no generation emergencies issued by PJM during this month. There was no need to purchase power during the month.

The following environmental activities occurred:

- Submitted the May 2010 Water Supply Monthly Operating Report to MDE.
- Sampled wastewater discharge outfall 001 and results were in compliance.
- The facility was accepted into the Maryland Green Registry. The registry lists organizations that demonstrate commitment to a strong, proactive approach to environmental management.
- Updated the facility SPCC (Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures) plan.
- Two fluid spills and cleanups were reported to MDE.

**Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)** – Approximately 1,956 tons of commingled material were shipped out and approximately 5,016 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems, Inc. processing facility this month. Replaced worn asphalt with concrete at the entrance to the storage shed and the area where we load the trailers transporting glass. Replaced or patched damaged curbs at several locations. Began using the old scrubber/sweeper to sweep the access road it was fitted with a magnet to pick up sharps, such as nails and screws, lying on the road.

**Oaks Landfill** – The new 2.4 MW landfill gas-to-energy plant continues to operate. SCS is nearly complete with Punch List items.

**Gude Landfill** – The new 0.8 MW landfill gas-to-energy plant continues to operate. SCS is nearly complete with Punch List items.

The Yard Trim Processing Facility Project and all related activities have been placed on hold until it can be potentially incorporated into the Gude Landfill Remediation Plan.

Work related to the Gude Landfill Remediation project continues. DEP and M-NCPPC are collaborating to assess the best option for long-term management of impacted park land that is adjacent to the Gude Landfill. EA Engineering and its drilling Contractor started the installation of the groundwater monitoring wells on M-NCPPC and County property.

Meetings with the Community and DEP/DSWS regarding the Gude Landfill Remediation will continue on a monthly basis.

**Solid Waste Transfer Station** – Covanta shipped 50,364 tons of processible waste via rail from the Transfer Station to the RRF; 1,384 tons more than shipped in June 2009.

The inbound radiation detectors had 9 valid alarms – 7 alarms involved a driver or passenger who had undergone recent medical tests and/or treatment involving radioactive isotopes and residual radiation; and 1 alarm by a vehicle that was identified as containing low levels of medical isotopes with short half-lives in trash. One load was rejected because material was not acceptable for disposal; the material was released from NIH and found to be RA226.

The Public Unloading Facility radiation detectors had 14 alarms. All alarms involved drivers or passengers who had undergone recent medical tests and/or treatment involving radioactive isotopes and residual radiation.

**Transfer Station Enforcement** – Under Chapter 48 of the Montgomery County Code, a total of 77 enforcement actions were taken during the reporting period. The enforcement composition breakdown includes:

Action	Verbal Warning	NOV	Citation
Lacking the Permit Required to Collect or Dispose of Solid Waste	0	11	3
Delivering Solid Waste Acceptable for Recycling to a Solid Waste Facility	1	9	9
Hauling Solid Waste Without a Valid Collectors Tag	1	24	8
Unlicensed Company	2	1	0
Un-permitted Vehicle of a Licensed Company	1	2	5
Transporting Solid Waste Without a Tight Fitting Cover	0	0	0
Unmarked Vehicle/Lettering	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>25</b>

**Site 2 Landfill Properties** – Design work continues on the Site 2 ponds. Staff continues to address Deer Management issues.

**Yard Trim Compost Facility** – The facility received 4,243 tons of material for composting; this compares with 6,742 tons of material received during the same period last year. No material was diverted to back-up composting facilities. There were 5,526

cubic yards of bulk LeafGro™ shipped this month; compared with 3,647 cubic yards for the same period last year. There were 206 cubic yards of Linden Farm Humus sold; this compares with 2,703 cubic yards for the same period last year.

**Bagging Operation** – 27,500 bags of LeafGro™ were shipped to distributors. This compares with 22,750 bags shipped during the same period last year. (Each bag is 1.5 cubic feet weighing 45 lbs.)

In June, 0 1-cubic foot bags of LeafGro™ were sold. This compares with 190 bags during the same period last year.

In June, 400 bags of Compro™ bags were shipped to distributors. This compares with 300 bags during the same period last year.

## **OUT-OF-COUNTY HAUL**

**Brunswick County, Virginia** – Approximately 16,498 tons of ash residue and 2,370 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc., Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia.

**Perry Hall Maryland** – Approximately 2,849 tons of asphalt, soil, concrete, and brick and block were sent to the Honeygo Run Recycling site in Perry Hall, Maryland, for construction and demolition recycling in the month of June.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste	240-777-6400
Customer Service	240-777-6410
Transfer Station	240-777-6560 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta) 301-330-2840 (MES)
Materials Recovery Facility	240-777-6591 (County Office) 301-417-1433 (MES)
Resource Recovery Facility	240-777-6494 (County Office) 301-916-3031 (Covanta)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	301-428-8185 (MES)
Internet for DSWS	<a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste</a> <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling</a> <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hazardouswaste">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hazardouswaste</a> <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/useitagain">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/useitagain</a> <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/yardtrim">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/yardtrim</a> <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veggieoil">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/veggieoil</a> <a href="http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/GOGREEN">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/GOGREEN</a>

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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# SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

TOPIC OR FACILITY	
Latest Tonnage of Materials Recycled in a Fiscal Year in Montgomery County	495,371 (FY09)
Latest Recycling Rate Reported in Montgomery County	44.2% (FY09)
Recycling Goal	50% by December 2010
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Permitted Capacity = 657,000 tons per calendar year (based on 5,500 BTU/lb waste)
Yard Trim Compost Facility	<p>Under the Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement, operations are limited to the receipt of 77,000 tons per fiscal year.</p> <p>In FY09, 67,928 tons of yard trim were received at the Dickerson Facility.</p>
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	90,957
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard trim collection	210,623
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started October 20, 1997.)

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS**

BTU	British Thermal Unit
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
DAFIG	Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ERP	Enterprise Resource Planning
FY	Fiscal Year
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Services
M-NCPPC	Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NMWDA	Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority
NOV	Notice of Violation
OSHA	Occupational Safety & Health Administration
PJM	Pennsylvania-New-Jersey-Maryland
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCFM	Standard cubic feet per minute
SCS	SCS Engineers, Inc.
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
SVO	Straight Vegetable Oil
TRRAC	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
UPS	Uninterruptible Power Supply
WVO	Waste Vegetable Oil